

**In the claims:**

1-5 Cancelled

6. (Original) A patient lifter comprising:

a substantially planar patient support for supporting a patient having a top surface, a bottom surface, a first side edge, a second side edge, a top edge and a bottom edge, the distance between the top and bottom edges defining a first width,

a support frame for supporting said patient support, said support frame attached to said first side edge and comprising at least one post and a cross member,

a pair of bases extending outwardly from said support frame and engaging the ground, said pair of bases comprising a first base having a first end attached to said support frame and a second end spaced from said support frame and a second base having a first end attached to said support base and a second end spaced from said support frame,

wherein said pair of bases have a first position with said first and second bases extending from said support frame toward said second side edge, said second ends of said first and second bases are spaced from each other by a second width smaller than said first width and a second position wherein said second ends of said first and second bases are spaced from each other by a third width greater than said first width ~~The patient lifter of claim 1,~~ further comprising a railing extending upwardly from said second side edge,

at least one L-shaped arm having one end connected to said railing and a second end pivotally connected to the bottom surface of the support surface patient support, the L-shaped arm rotating about an axis substantially parallel to the patient support side edges.

7. (Original) The patient lifter of claim 6, wherein said at least one L-shaped arm includes a first section and a second section, said first section and said second section pivotally connected together.

8. (Currently Amended) The patient lifter of claim 6, wherein there are two L-shaped ~~I-shaped~~ arms.

9. (Currently Amended) A patient lifter comprising:

a patient support for supporting a patient having a top surface, a bottom surface, a first side edge, a second side edge, a top edge and a bottom edge, the distance between the top and bottom edges defining a first width,

a support frame for supporting said ~~patient~~ patient support, said support frame attached to said first side edge and comprising at least one post and a cross member,

a railing extending upwardly from said second side edge, and

at least one L-shaped arm having one end connected to said railing and a second end pivotally connected to the ~~bottom surface of the support surface~~ patient support, the L-shaped arm rotating about an axis substantially parallel to the patient support side edges.

10. (Previously presented) The patient lifter of claim 9, wherein said at least one L-shaped arm includes a first section and a second section, said first section and said second section pivotally connected together.

11. (Previously presented) The patient lifter of claim 9, wherein there are two L-shaped arms.

12. Cancelled

13.(New) The patient lifter of claim 6, wherein said L-shaped arm is connected to the bottom surface of the patient support.

14. (New) The patient lifter of claim 9, wherein said L-shaped arm is connected to the bottom surface of the patient support.